

**From:** Kurt Erensoy  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/2/02 8:53pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir,

In 1992, I was laid off from my job at Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. I had at that time, on my own initiative and spending many long hours at home after work hours, developed for Liberty Mutual several insurance rate-quotation applications which served Liberty Mutual's sales force very well in more than a dozen states. I lost my job at Liberty Mutual because my product was in direct competition with the IS Department's mainframe software, and it felt threatened by a PC product produced outside its realm. The full force of the power of the IS Department was brought to bear against me, and I was laid off 23 days before I was eligible for full retirement benefits - 23 days before I reached age 55.

Having had my fill of corporate ingratitude, I started my own software company. At that time, Microsoft's Quick Basic was available to me at almost no cost to develop my applications, and during the last 10 years Microsoft has provided to me a number of programming tools, which gave me the chance to prosper as a small software developer. I owe much to Microsoft, as do my software users who do not have the slightest idea of the role Microsoft has played in providing sophisticated programming software at such a low cost to the developer.

To me, who has experienced the backlash of producing a successful product, there are some clear similarities between my losing my job and the type of punishment Microsoft's competitors would like to mete out to Microsoft. I was punished and Microsoft stands to be punished solely on account of our success. In my case, the price paid was limited to only me and Liberty Mutual's sale force. In the case of Microsoft, the whole community of PC users is at risk at paying a price, and a heavy one it will be.

Thank you,

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